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Nothing but a blind groundhog could have failed to see his shadows on Feb. 2. Now bring on your winter!

Though Glasgow may have been stirred by a mighty unrest, the city on the Dee and the Don seems to be moving serenely along.

It is not true that the French army moved back six miles from their own frontier to get a running start at the Germans.

Various departments of the Boston city government saved \$577,000 from their combined appropriations during the past year. There's a record worth striving for.

One can easily imagine that the meeting between President Wilson and former Ambassador Von Bernstorff at the peace congress will not be any too pleasant an affair.

The first (regular) division of the American expeditionary force in France was first in more ways than name. The regular army of the United States gave a splendid account of itself all through the war.

More than a million American soldiers have been demobilized already, and, unfortunately, all of them have not been absorbed in industry in the United States although a marked advance in that movement has been made.

Gen. Leonard Wood's promotion to the command of the central department of the United States army has not served to put the muzzle on him, judging by his talk about the "next" war. General Wood is a good deal like his old friend and associate, Theodore Roosevelt.

In view of the fact that the corrected report of the insurance on the Milford Pink Granite company's plant at Milford, Mass., was scaled down one-half, from \$20,000 to \$10,000, the early figures, which showed the loss on the property by fire, which were \$300,000, ought to be scaled down also. The comparative figures between loss and insurance are entirely disproportionate and the loss as originally given seems to have been very high, too.

Pershing's denial of the truth of the stories circulated in France about the crimes committed by American soldiers is not accompanied by specific refutation of the charges but it may be taken for granted that he has information concerning the subject and that his denial is not based merely on judgment which he may have formed with respect to the character of American soldiers en masse.

One of the advantages of the position taken by the United States government when the government refused to declare war against Turkey despite the clamor of a large number of Americans is now revealed in the discovery that, not having declared war on Turkey, the United States will not have to be one of the nations to do police duty in Turkey during the satisfying of the claims of the allies. The same will hold true of Bulgaria.

The Barre Times suggests Waterbury as a possible place for the meeting of the Vermont Press association. The contemporary must have a short memory. It will be some time before the press association, its members or any of its friends carry very long in Waterbury.—Rutland Herald.

The Northfield and Barre part of the program is alright, but if we thought for a minute that any member of the Vermont Press association would shame himself to the extent of rearing his weary bones in that relic of Prussian autocracy known in certain quarters as the Waterbury inn, we'd withdraw from that august organization and run up the red flag without further parley.—Swanton Courier.

Evidently the war is not over; and the appearance of an armistice was but a sham and a delusion. Anyway, there are no casualties, for which one should be duly thankful.

The Springfield Reporter complains because of lack of recognition of Springfield and notes that one of the chances for notice, which passed unnoticed, was the influenza epidemic in Springfield, which numbered 1200 patients and caused 71 deaths last October, the specific complaint being made that Springfield was not mentioned by the state board of health bulletin as being among the towns and cities of Vermont having at least a thousand cases of influenza. If Springfield had received such undesirable publicity as some communities in Vermont have suffered during the last few years because of the outbreak of disease either in epidemic form or as sporadic cases Springfield would not care a bit whether its epidemic of last fall passed out without official recognition in the state board of health. There is such a thing as too much publicity on matters relating to disease.

The people of Austria seem to be getting together on a workable basis toward the formation of a stable government, the socialists and the non-socialists having united on a coalition cabinet and with a resolve to support that cabinet through the trying problems of recon-

struction. Therein the people of the former empire are making considerably faster progress toward stability than the people of their ally to the northward. How much of this solidarity of purpose is to be attributed to the influence of the allies is, of course, problematical; but it would appear probable that the tangible evidence of allied interest in the shape of generous food contributions to the suffering people of Austria has been an influential agency in quieting the minds of the Austrian people. They have learned that the allies desire to see the establishment of a stable form of government after the chaos following the decline of the monarchy and they have seen, too, that the allies are ready to lend a helping hand in the shape of much needed supplies. Perhaps that is helping to settle the tumult in Austria.

MORE PROOF OF THE 26TH DIVISION'S PART IN WAR.

A short time ago we had the detached statement of casualties suffered by the 26th division, which went to show that the division from New England had gone through some of the hardest fighting of the war. Now we have the comparative statement of the losses sustained by the 30 combat divisions and we have corroborative evidence that the New England men were engaged in some of the most fierce battles ever fought. Only seven divisions sustained more casualties than did the 26th, and, of the seven, four were divisions of regulars and three were divisions of national guard troops. But, severe as were the casualties of the New England men, it is not correct to say that the division was "shot to pieces," as the total killed, died of wounds, prisoners and missing was only approximately one-tenth of the strength of the American division. It is probably true, however, that some of the units of the division may have been more nearly wiped out than the figures of the division as a whole would indicate. That may account for some of the stories brought back by a few soldiers of the division.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

John Barrett's Address.

Editor, Times: Hon. John Barrett, director general of the Pan-American union, is to deliver an address before the General Assembly at 8 o'clock, noon Thursday evening in the hall of the House of Representatives. The subject of the address will be, "The Great Pan-American Opportunity—What It Means to Vermont."

President MacChesney of the Illinois State Bar association recently said when he introduced Mr. Barrett, "No man in this country is so well informed concerning the Latin-American republics as is Mr. Barrett." The Pan-American union consists of the United States and 20 sister republics of North and South America, with John Barrett as director general. This organization was the outcome of the thought of the late James G. Blaine, back in the 80's.

Mr. Barrett is an ex-American minister to Spain, Argentina, Panama and Colombia, and has done much diplomatic work in other countries. He was born in Grafton, Vt., and is a Vermonter of Vermonters. The writer believes that his address will be one of the most interesting and instructive events of the year and that Mr. Barrett will in the next few years become one of the best known American diplomats. The lobby and galleries of the Hall of Representatives will be open to the public at 8 o'clock on the evening of Feb. 6. A Vermonter.

AT MONTPELIER FEB. 4.

Gen. Azagpetian to Talk on Relief in the Near East.

The campaign in Washington county for relief in the near East was somewhat delayed in starting, owing to the late appointment of a chairman, and consequent delay in getting the county organized. Committees, however, have been at work and have done "yeoman service" in practically all the towns in the county. Our minimum share is 1 per cent, and our maximum 1 1/2 per cent of the county quota for the third Liberty loan.

Up to Feb. 1 the following towns had reached or exceeded their quotas: Calais, Duxbury, Marshfield, Middlesex, Moretown, Northfield, Plainfield, Roxbury (more than double), Waitsfield, Waterbury.

In addition to the above, generous contributions have been received from other

Your Opportunity

Promotion is the reward for fitness; fitness is the result of training; training is obedience to physical and moral law.

If poor Micawber, submerged in debt but always hopeful, could have turned his irrepressible optimism to some definitely useful purpose, he would have made a great success, but instead he was "always waiting for something to turn up."

There are too many Micawbers to-day, men who lack the ambition to hold to steady application.

The man who sticks to the job, does his work well, saves his money and lives a decent life, is sure to succeed; indeed, he has already succeeded, for he has learned to judge his opportunity and improve it.

Opportunity will sooner or later knock at your door. Will you hear the call?

Open a savings account to-day and say, "I am ready."

The Peoples National Bank of Barre

National Bank Protection for Your Savings.

places, the returns in many cases being incomplete. Several other towns are likely to be 100 per cent or better.

The county organization is arranging for a state meeting to be held in city hall, Montpelier, Tuesday evening, Feb. 4. At this meeting State Chairman Roland E. Stevens of White River Junction will give some account of the work in general and of Vermont's part in particular. Major General Azagpetian of the former Russian army will appear in uniform and speak of the situation as he knows it from personal experience, as he has been engaged in relief work, since his military duty was completed. General Azagpetian speaks six languages fluently, but will confine himself to one, most familiar to us all, in his address. Those who have heard him elsewhere are enthusiastic about him, and a treat is in store for the people in this vicinity.

THE TENNEY SERVICE.

There is a curious trolley line that runs in old Vermont. It claims to run in rain or shine and always do its stunt.

It advertises very laconic. And calls its service Tenney's. And for a trip it makes a charge of thirty honest pennies.

But let me tell you what I think. And it is common sense. That service drives a man to drink and costs him thirty cents.

The people like the man who fools them. So Barnum wisely said, And that is why that Tenney costs them At thirty cents a head.

Two hours was the time in all We spent upon a riding. In going to the capital. And half an hour in riding.

They said a car was off the track Somewhere down the line. And thought they soon would get it back And have it running fine.

But stars rose up and sank to rest And still no car appeared. We cracked old jokes and sang our best And everyone was cheered.

Our sport from Eastern avenue Was full of noise and prattle And asked a drowsy friend he knew To let him hold his bottle.

The friend appeared to understand Yet did not acquiesce; But gripped his bottle in his hand For reasons you can guess.

The equine declared he was athirst. And bleated like a lamb; His voice through all the clatter burst, "How dry, how dry I am."

Job had no better right to scold For all his scorns and scars. Than we who shivered in the cold To ride in Tenney's cars.

The road is hard to future bliss And full of jolts and jarn, But let the vilest sinners miss A ride in Tenney's cars.

—Le joueur de la poule au billard.

CURRENT COMMENT

Protect the Treasury.

House bill, No. 77, an act to provide central supervision of the collection of delinquent taxes by the commissioner of taxes, and to amend section 928 of the general laws relating thereto, is understood to be the proposal of Tax Commissioner Plumley to secure more complete

HURRY

Sale of Overcoats at reduced prices. Less than 25 in the lot, so step lively if you wish to save some real money and get a good Coat; \$16.50, \$20.00 and \$25.00.

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collection of delinquent taxes. It has some merit but contains some provisions that should not be allowed.

So far as the bill provides for supervision of the collection of town and municipal taxes by the state tax commissioner it seems desirable. It will be remembered that it was recently reported that the uncollected local taxes in Vermont amount to about \$240,000 a year. That is too large an amount of revenue for the towns to lose, and the failure of the local officers to collect these moneys warrants the imposition of state supervision and regulation.

The bill provides that the commissioner of taxes shall call meetings of collectors of taxes at such times and places as he shall designate for the purpose of instruction as to the law governing their official duties and concerning the collection of delinquent taxes; requires all collectors to attend all meetings to which they are summoned by the tax commissioner and that the collectors shall be paid \$3 per day, traveling and hotel expenses "from the treasury of their municipality." This seems unnecessary and unwise. Collectors of taxes can be instructed in their duties in a much less expensive manner and the bill provides for the punishment for neglecting their duty. That seems sufficient.

Under this provision the commissioner of taxes could make a tour of Vermont whenever he saw fit at the expense of the state. If the bill allowing state officials fifteen cents a mile for traveling expenses is passed, of course, the trip would be made by automobile and would be a very pleasant affair. Undoubtedly the committee on taxation to which the bill has been referred will see to it that joy rides at the expense of the state will not be provided for in this bill.—Brattleboro Reformer.

Easy for Her.

Wife—Mother is coming next week, George.
 Hub—Then we'll wait and let her discharge the cook.—Boston Transcript.

HERE'S THE WAY TO SUCCESS

No man jumps into success at a leap. No great invention has been a sudden thing. The Wrights worked on flying machines years before they flew. Henry Ford was a mechanic before he was an automobile wizard. He didn't dream a Ford car; he worked it out. And it took years.

In your efforts to succeed, it is better to lay a foundation as the mason lays bricks, by adding one brick at a time. Saving little by little and making REGULAR deposits in this savings bank each week or each month will lead to permanent success.

Build your financial affairs on a strong foundation by opening a checking or savings account at this bank. The officers of this institution are always ready to advise with you regarding business matters.

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